

Comments on “Nomina Lepidopterorum nova” by S. K. Korb (Papilionidae, Nymphalidae)

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Summary. In revising a recent publication in which 15 new species-group names were briefly introduced for various Palaearctic Papilionidae and Nymphalidae, it is shown that 14 of these names are either unavailable or objectively invalid. General comments call for more strict criteria for the acceptance of publications to be applied by the editors of scientific periodicals to prevent such unnecessary changes in nomenclature resulting from inferior quality publications in the future.

Zusammenfassung. Die Überarbeitung einer kürzlich erschienenen Veröffentlichung, in der 15 neue Artgruppennamen für verschiedene paläarktische Papilionidae und Nymphalidae eingeführt wurden, ergab, daß 14 dieser Namen entweder nicht verfügbar oder objektiv ungültig sind. Allgemein wird daran appelliert, von seiten der Herausgeber strengere Kriterien für die Veröffentlichung von Beiträgen in wissenschaftlichen Zeitschriften anzuwenden, um derartig unnötige nomenklatorischen Änderungen als Ergebnis minderwertiger Veröffentlichungen künftig zu vermeiden.

Résumé. La révision d'une publication récente, dans laquelle 15 nouveaux noms du groupe-espèce ont été introduits pour plusieurs Papilionidae et Nymphalidae paléarctiques, a démontré que 14 de ces noms sont soit indisponibles, soit objectivement invalides. Des commentaires d'ordre général visent à l'établissement de critères d'acceptation plus stricts de la part des éditeurs de périodiques scientifiques par rapport aux publications soumises, de sorte à prévenir de tels changements non nécessaires de nomenclature résultant de publications de qualité inférieure à l'avenir.

Key words: Lepidoptera, Papilionidae, *Parnassius*, Nymphalidae, nomenclature, unjustified changes.

In a short paper recently published in the journal *Alexanor* (19(8): 485–487), 15 new species-group names were introduced by S. K. Korb (1997) as replacement names (“nomina nova”), one name was replaced

by an existing available name, and one synonymy was established. When trying to check some of the references cited in that paper it became evident that all citations were incorrect or wrongly interpreted, and that the author was not familiar with certain rules and provisions of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) nor with the literary sources he referred to. The purpose of this contribution, therefore, is an attempt to avert unnecessary nomenclatural changes possibly resulting from the above-mentioned paper. Furthermore, this note is also hoped to deter from similar attempts to increase the enormous number of nomenclaturally available names in the future, particularly in such Lepidoptera groups as *Parnassius* which already greatly suffer from an overload of available species-group names. The responsibility for more considerate and self-restrained actions is not only with the author(s), but similarly with the editors of scientific periodicals who decide about accepting such contributions for publication. Therefore, we strongly urge our colleagues who are in charge of editorship to have all manuscripts submitted to them containing nomenclatural acts more carefully reviewed prior to acceptance, in order to keep butterfly nomenclature and taxonomy free from superfluous burden.

Since most of the nominal taxa dealt with by Korb (1997) appear to be subject to some sort of mistake, all names introduced in his paper are briefly revised herewith in alphabetical order.

alpharatoria Korb, 1997

Invalid, as it is a junior objective synonym of *Argynnis sachalinensis* Matsumura, 1908. As all the taxa involved and their respective references are incorrectly cited by Korb, it has been somewhat difficult to resolve this case. The name *alpharatoria* was proposed by Korb (1997: 486) as a replacement name for "*Boloria iphigenia sachalinensis* Matsumura (1911: 53)" which he supposed to be preoccupied by "*Boloria oscarus sachalinensis* Matsumura (1911: 53)". Both taxa, however, are not mentioned in the publication by Matsumura (1911) which Korb referred to (p. 51 deals with Heterocera; Rhopalocera are listed on pp. 40–47, and p. 43 contains *Argynnis sachalinensis* Mats. and a description of "*Argynnis aglaja* L. var. *sachalinensis* n." — see below, under *leucosoma*) nor in any subsequent publication of that author (Matsumura 1925, 1929).

The taxonomic combination *Clossiana iphigenia* Graes. race *sachalinensis* Matsumura was first established by Warren (1955: 383), and the taxon in question had been described by Matsumura (1908: 158) as "*Argynnis sachalinensis* n. sp.", but was also listed in the same paper as "*Argynnis selene* Schiff. v. *sachalinensis*". Thus, the taxonomic status remained uncertain from the very moment of its publication. Subsequently, this nominal taxon was transferred to *Argynnis euphrosyne* Linnaeus by Esaki (1916), an opinion which was also accepted by Matsumura (1925: 99), and later on it was transferred to *Argynnis oscarus* Eversmann (Hori & Tamanuki, 1937: 149). The name *Boloria iphigenia alpharatoria* Korb, 1997, therefore, has to be regarded as a junior objective synonym of *Argynnis sachalinensis* Matsumura, 1908.

anufrievi Korb, 1997

Invalid, as it is a junior objective synonym of *Parnassius delphius menander* Hemming, 1934, which had already been proposed as a replacement name for *Parnassius delphius intermedius* Verity, [1911]. The later name, indeed, is a junior primary homonym of *Parnassius phoebus intermedius* [Ménétriés], [1850]. Korb (1997: 485) wrongly attributed the nominal taxon *P. delphius intermedius* to Groum-Grshimaïlo (1890) (this is the correct spelling of the author's name in the work cited, not "Grum-Grshimailo" as in Korb's paper) as author, but in his work the name "*intermedia*" appears only on a distribution map without description or indication; in the text, it is furthermore clearly stated by Groum-Grshimaïlo (1890: 195, footnote) that he did not intend to give a name to that form, as he supposed this was later to be done by Hugo Christoph. The name *P. delphius intermedius* was therefore first made available by Verity ([1911]: 316) as clearly stated by Bang-Haas (1915: 154) and Hemming (1934: 99). Bryk (1923: 58) and Bridges (1988: I.146). have also erroneously attributed the name *intermedius* to Groum-Grshimaïlo.

elenae Korb, 1997

Invalid, as the name is a junior objective synonym of *Parnassius stubbendorffii typicus* Bryk, 1914. The name *elenae* was proposed by Korb (1997: 485) as a replacement name for *typicus* Bryk which he supposed to be a junior primary homonym of *Parnassius delphius typicus* Stichel, 1911. A name *typica* or *typicus*, however, has apparently

never been published by Stichel in combination with the generic name *Parnassius*, but certainly not in the paper cited by Korb (Stichel, 1910). The name *typicus* Bryk, 1914, again, does not appear in the reference given by Korb but was first published in another paper in the same journal (Bryk, 1914a: 12). The supposed name "*typicus* Stichel" can probably be attributed to another publication of Stichel (1911) in which he gave a list of individual forms of *Parnassius delphius* all taken at a single locality. In this compilation of named forms, two of which were described as new, Stichel (1911: 277) also mentioned a "*forma typica delphius*" by which he simply meant to denote the nominotypical (individual) form but not to introduce a new name. The mistake to accept this "*forma typica*" as name probably goes back to Bryk (1923: 50) who first listed a "*v. typica* Stichel" as a synonym of *Tadumia delphius delphius* and subsequently the name was erroneously included in Bridges (1988: I.306) as an available name. Since the words "*forma typica*" in Stichel's paper (1911) clearly represent no name, the citations by Bryk (1923) and Bridges (1988) also have no effect.

indra Korb, 1997

Invalid, as it is a junior objective synonym of *Parnassius imperator interjungens* Bryk, 1932, which long since had been proposed as a replacement name for *Parnassius imperator intermedius* Rothschild, 1909. The latter name, indeed, is a junior primary homonym of *Parnassius phoebus intermedius* [Ménétriés], [1850].

jacovlevi Korb, 1997

Invalid, as it is a junior objective synonym of *Parnassius actius urumtsiensis* Verity, [1906]. The name *jacovlevi* was proposed by Korb (1997: 485) as a replacement name for *urumtsiensis* Verity, [1906], being a senior (!) primary homonym of *Parnassius actius urumtsiensis* Deckert, 1909. It can probably be assumed that Korb actually intended to propose a replacement name for *urumtsiensis* Deckert, the junior primary homonym, but his text clearly states the opposite. The name *urumtsiensis* Deckert, however, is itself a junior objective synonym of *urumtsiensis* Verity as both names were based on the same type specimens. The name *urumtsiensis* was published by Verity ([1906]: 60, pl. 13, figs. 7, 8) as "*Deckert in litt.*" and based on some 20 specimens taken by Rückbeil in June 1903 said to be in coll. Deckert. In his

description, Deckert (1909: 109) stated that he had received a total of 15 specimens collected by Rückbeil in July 1903, 14 of which are now deposited in the Sheljuzhko collection in the Zoological Museum of Kiev University (Tshikolovets, 1993: 55).

laperusi Korb, 1997

Unavailable, as the name was proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Parnassius honrathi* f. *ocelloconjuncta* Eisner, 1938. The original description of the form *ocelloconjuncta* appeared in a different paper (Eisner, 1938: 56) than that cited by Korb (1997: 485), and it was listed as an infrasubspecific name by Bridges (1988: I.218). A supposed senior homonym, *Parnassius apollonius daubi* f. *ocelloconjuncta* Bryk & Eisner, 1934, also represents an infrasubspecific name, and again, the original description of this form appeared in a different paper (Bryk & Eisner, 1934: 22) than that cited by Korb.

leucosoma Korb, 1997

Unavailable, since proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Argynnis paphia neopaphia* Fruhs. ab. (fem.) *sachalinensis* Matsumura (1925: 102; not 114 as stated by Korb). In addition, a replacement name (also unavailable) had already been proposed for this infrasubspecific form: *Argynnis paphia* ab. *virescens* Nakahara (1926: 48).

lezginka Korb, 1997

Unavailable, since proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Parnassius jacquemontii* f. *caeca* von Rosen, 1921. The name *caeca* von Rosen has subsequently been treated as infrasubspecific by Bryk (1935: 259), and is not even listed by Bridges (1988). The supposed senior homonym, *Parnassius delphius staudingeri* ab. *caeca* Verity, [1911], represents also an infrasubspecific name and has been treated as such by Bryk (1923: 52; 1935: 196), Kudrna (1983: 42), and Bridges (1988: I.51).

loch Korb, 1997

Unavailable, as proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Parnassius stubbendorffii* ab. *maculata* Bryk, 1914. The name *maculata* Bryk, 1914, published in a different paper (Bryk, 1914a: 7) than that indicated by Korb, clearly denotes a female aberration of

P. stubbendorfii and not a subspecies. The name was subsequently treated as infrasubspecific by Bryk (1923: 220; 1935: 111) and is not even mentioned in Bridges (1988).

matsumurai Nakahara, 1926

The supposedly new synonymisation of *Argynnis aglaja sachalinensis* Matsumura, 1911 with *A. a. matsumurai* Nakahara, 1926 (Korb, 1997: 486) had already been undertaken by Gaede (1932: 223), and subsequently accepted by, e.g., Hori & Tamanuki (1937). *Argynnis aglaja sachalinensis* Matsumura, 1911, furthermore, is unavailable as a junior primary homonym of *Argynnis sachalinensis* Matsumura, 1908 (see also above, under *alpharatoria* Korb), a fact which is not being mentioned by Korb.

multidiscobolus Korb, 1997

An available replacement name for *Parnassius discobolus* Alphéraky, 1881, which is unavailable as a junior primary homonym of *Parnassius discobolus* Staudinger, 1881. The reference given by Korb for the original description of *discobolus* Staudinger (1881: 275) is badly misleading as both the title and the journal stated are incorrect. The two taxa have long been considered as subjective synonyms of *Parnassius tianschanicus* Oberthür, 1879. However, they do not represent objective synonyms as the type material of Staudinger (1881: 275) originated from "Ala Tau" collected by Haberhauer in 1878, whereas the specimens of the type series of *discobolus* Alphéraky were collected by the author himself in the Tien-Shan Mts. one year later (Staudinger, *l. cit.*).

nakaharae Matsumura, 1929

The name *nakaharae* Matsumura, 1929 ([III].3) had been proposed as an available replacement for *Papilio bianor paradoxa* Nakahara (1924: 38), a junior primary homonym of *P. (Chilasa) paradoxa* Zinken, 1831 (cf. Bridges, 1988: 1.267). *P. bianor sachalinensis* Matsumura (1925: 89, not 100 as stated by Korb), a junior primary homonym of *P. machaon sachalinensis* Matsumura (1911: 40, not 45 as stated by Korb), had already been synonymized by von Rosen (1929: 12) and Bryk (1930: 601) with *P. bianor paradoxa* Nakahara, and the substitution proposed by Korb (1997: 486) presents nothing new.

naumanni Korb, 1997

Unavailable, since proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Parnassius delphius staudingeri* ab. *caeca* Verity, [1911]: 317. The name *caeca* Verity has subsequently been treated as infrasubspecific by Bryk (1923: 52; 1935: 196), Kudrna (1983: 42), and Bridges (1988: I.51). The supposed senior homonym, *Parnassius delphius* ab. *caecus* Dönitz, 1892, the reference to the original description of which was omitted by Korb, represents also an infrasubspecific name and has been treated as such by Stichel (1907: 32), Bryk (1923: 52; 1935: 589), and Bridges (1988: I.51).

necdementoprisus Korb, 1997

Invalid, as it is a junior objective synonym of *Parnassius actius brutus* Bang-Haas, 1915. The name *necdementoprisus* was introduced by Korb (1997: 486) as a replacement name for *brutus* Bang-Haas on the assumption that this name represented a junior primary homonym of *Parnassius actius brutus* Bryk, 1914 which, however, is a nomen nudum. Since Bryk (1923: 72; 1935: 254) took himself as the author of the name, and since “*brutus* Bryk” has also been listed as an available name by Bridges (1988: I.49), the case is probably worth some more detailed explanation.

The name *brutus* for a new subspecies of *P. actius* from the Pamirs appeared first in a sales catalogue of the Staudinger & Bang-Haas Company issued early 1914 which, of course, does not constitute a publication in the sense of ICZN, Art. 8 and 9. It was with reference to this sales list, that Bryk (1914b: 40) first mentioned the name in a publication which appeared in May 1914 as “*Parnassius actius* Eversm. subsp. *Brutus* Bang-Haas (*i. l.*) ab. *jambicus* nova”. In the following text, however, Bryk just briefly characterised a single female specimen upon which he based this new “ab. *jambicus*”. He only mentioned that he had one pair of this “fine undescribed form” (= *brutus*) in his collection, but did not provide any characterisation nor description of it. The name *brutus* is therefore not available as from this publication of Bryk (1914b) because it does not satisfy the provisions of the ICZN, Art. 12. In 1915, an available description of *brutus* was finally provided in a paper by Bang-Haas (1915: 94), which therefore represents the first publication of this name in the sense of ICZN.

pagenstecheri Korb, 1997

Unavailable, as the name was proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Parnassius eversmanni* f. *intermedia* Kardakoff, 1928; the name *intermedia* Kardakoff could probably represent a nomen nudum. In his paper, Kardakoff (1928: 265) characterised an individual, intermediate form between *P. eversmanni maui* and *mauoides* as a “forma intermedia” which he named “ab. *monocula*”. Hence the word “intermedia” in his text was not intended to be a new name, and such a name has not been mentioned by either Bridges (1988) or Iwamoto & Inomata (1988), but it was listed as “*P. e.* subsp. *laui* + forma *intermedia*”, Kardakoff in: Ent. Mt. ...” by Bryk (1935: 142) which probably has been misinterpreted by Korb.

pratensis Korb, 1997

Unavailable, as the name was proposed as a replacement for an infrasubspecific name, *Parnassius bremeri* ab. *caeca* Sheljuzhko, 1928. The name *caeca* Sheljuzhko has subsequently been treated as infra-subspecific by Bryk (1935: 196) and Bridges (1988: I.51).

ximama Korb, 1997

Unavailable, as the name was proposed as a replacement for a nomen nudum, “*Hypermnestra helios maxima* Bryk”. Although there is only an incorrect reference given by Korb as to the supposed publication of that name, it probably originates from a misunderstanding of a catalogue entry by Bryk (1922: 40): “*maxima* Bryk, Arch. F. Naturg., 80 A 9, p. 140, t. 6, f. 40”. In the reference indicated, Bryk (1914) published a colour plate out of his own hand which among other Parnassiinae depicts a specimen of *H. helios*, and in the figure legend to that plate (*l. cit.*: 140) is stated “*Hypermnestra helios* Nick. (var. *maxima* Stgr.”. The real author of the name *maxima* for a subspecies of *H. helios*, however, is Groum-Grshimaïlo (1890: 141) as correctly indicated by Verity ([1906]: 37), and also by Bryk (1922, 1935), and the listing of Staudinger as the author is apparently a lapsus calami or a printer’s error. In any case, none of the above indications would provide availability of the name *maxima* Bryk, and there is no evidence that Bryk ever intended to propose a new name.

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